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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

ROBERT L. MORGAN
Executive Director

LOWELL P. BRAXTON
Division Director

Supervisor LPB for OK

Inspection Report
Minerals Regulatory Program

Report Date: September 28, 2004

Mine Name: Seep Ridge
Operator or Permittee Name: Geokinetics
Permittee Mailing Address: One Riverway, Ste. 2100, Houston, TX 77056

Inspector(s): Paul Baker

Other Participants: John Blake (SITLA), Mickey Schott and Tom Concannon (Geokinetics), John Justice and another person (Ben) (equipment operators working for Geokinetics)
Permit Status: Inactive/Reclaimed
Current Acreages:
Total Permitted (Bonded): 13
Total Disturbed: 13

Permit number: M/047/002
Inspection Date: July 8, 2004

Weather: Mostly clear, 80-90's
Inspection Start Time: 8:30 AM
Inspection End Time: Abt. 12:00 PM
Site location/Area Inspected (i.e. Pit #): Well at the trailer park and culvert under one of the roads

Surface Ownership: SITLA
Mineral Ownership: SITLA
Mineral Mined: Oil Shale
Type of Mine: In Situ

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	N/A	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. Public Safety (open shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	☒	☐	☒	☐
3. Protection of Drainages	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. Explosives, magazines	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. Deleterious Material	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	☒	☐	☒	☐
7. Concurrent Reclamation	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Erosion Control	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. Demolition	☐	☐	☐	☐
10. Backfilling and Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	☐	☐	☐	☐
11. Water Impoundments	☐	☐	☐	☐
12. Soils	☐	☐	☐	☐
13. Revegetation	☐	☐	☐	☐
14. Air Quality	☐	☐	☐	☐
15. Other	☒	☐	☒	☐

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Purpose of Inspection:
Our primary purpose was to look for a water well in the trailer park area. Maps, inspection reports, aerial photos, and water rights legal descriptions all indicate there was a water well in this area, but there is no record the well was ever plugged and properly abandoned. Although we had several indications where the well might be, no one was certain of its exact location. Geokinetics hired a trackhoe to see if we could find the well.

We also talked about the need for cleaning up some trash, and the trackhoe was used to pull out a damaged culvert.

Inspection Summary:
2. Public Safety
Scattered about the site, there was some trash left over from the mining operation. This needed to be picked up, and I understand this has been done.

6. Roads
In 2002, the operator ripped several areas and seeded them. One of these areas was a road, and a culvert in the road was damaged to where it could damage someone's tire if they drove over it wrong. During the inspection, the trackhoe was used to pull out the culvert (Photo 1).

15. Other
The primary focus of the inspection was to try to find a well that was apparently not properly plugged when it was abandoned. We had previously found a 1½-inch galvanized pipe protruding from the ground together with a pressure switch cover, part of a pressure switch, and electrical wire used for a submersible pump all indicating the well must be close by. An aerial photo and a legal description of the well location also indicated it would be at or very close to this spot.

The trackhoe dug all around the galvanized pipe looking for any sign of the well or its casing (Photo 2). We did not find any casing. The pipe extended into bedrock with no sign of the casing (Photo 3), and the trackhoe was not able to dig any deeper. At this point, we decided to stop digging.

After returning to the office, I spoke with a person from Water Rights (I did not record and cannot remember his name) about what should be done. The chances of contaminating ground water are extremely remote, so he said the operator should cut the pipe below ground level then weld a steel plate on it. I understand this was done and that the excavation was filled back in.

Inspector's Signature _____ **Date: September 28, 2004**

PBB:jb
Enclosures: photos
cc: Mickey Schott, Geokinetics
John Blake, SITLA
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ATTACHMENT
Photographs
M/047/002, Seep Ridge Mine, Geokinetics
Inspection Dated: July 8, 2004; Report Dated: September 28, 2004

Photo 1. Digging the damaged culvert from the road.

Photo 2. The trackhoe digging in the area of the galvanized pipe, looking for any sign of casing.

Photo 3. The galvanized pipe extends into bedrock with no sign of the well casing.